This has been an extremely busy month and it has been hard to record all of the information and activities that I’ve completed in a timely fashion. Teachers are FINALLY actively seeking me out and this has been a new venue for me. Since I really want teachers to come to me, I have not said no yet to anyone, however I was feeling a bit overwhelmed last week when I had 3 teachers come at the same time after school to my door for assistance! It was wonderful and scary at the same time. I’ve really enjoyed feeling so needed.

The one area where I feel I am not strong is keeping track of those little meetings in the hallway. Since I go right from a co-taught class to my own and then I’ve been helping out in a math class, which is again followed by my own class I have been at a loss for reflecting on a daily basis. After school are either meetings or teachers pop in for some help (those I’ve kept track of for the most part). I’m not sure how other Reading Specialists/coaches accomplish this when they teach in addition to their role as mentor. I have also had some teachers pop in to observe me teaching, but I did not put that down in my excel sheet. I cannot remember the exact dates and do not wish to negate all my efforts with an error on my Excel sheet.

Another area where I am feeling a little overwhelmed is in keeping up with the reading of the “Reading Teacher” and the “Journal of Adolescent Literacy”. I have gone through the current month’s issue and have shared the articles with others, but I’ve also engaged myself in reading back issues that are available online and this has side tracked me from staying on top of my paperwork for the practicum. I guess this just shows how much I love to read and share, along with my seeking knowledge for future use.

While I have had a wonderful month with teachers seeking me out, I guess I am feeling overwhelmed with the paperwork involved in this practicum. I have not kept my wiki up to date and have not gotten the opportunity to take time off from work due to a lack of substitutes in the district (at least qualified!). Last week I went to visit the Franklin County Career and Technical Center, where several of my students will be attending next semester. I ended up leaving a video for each of my classes to view in my absence, as they could not get me a sub that was trained on Corrective Reading. Thankfully, I was able to find videos that corresponded to the selected text we have been reading as a group in class. I guess I just wonder how everyone else keeps track. Maybe I should get a palm or a little tape recorder and utilize that, but then that would be just one more thing to keep track of ☺!